

9 MAR 1970

P-Staling, Svetlana
Soc. 4.01.2 Only One
Year

Associated Press

Svetlana: Glaring omissions

EXILES:

Free Translation

Since her defection from the Soviet Union three years ago, Svetlana Alliluyeva, Stalin's daughter, has been doing all right. Handsome royalties from the sale of her writings have provided her with a comfortable, secluded life in Princeton, N.J. But last week, the 44-year-old lady author found herself embroiled in a full-blown transatlantic literary squabble.

In an angry statement, Svetlana charged that the best-selling French translation of her latest book, "Only One Year"—which details her flight to the West—was grossly distorted. "All those pages critical of the Soviet regime were softened or altered [while] the phrases and paragraphs telling about the friendly attitudes of American people to the author often are omitted," she declared. The French publisher, Robert Laffont, stuck to his guns. He contended that the U.S. edition—itsself a translation from the Russian—was a "catastrophe," while his "free-style" French version, which sold 45,000 copies, was "a great book." Svetlana seemed to have made her point, however, for Laffont canceled plans to run off a second printing.